

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DEC 03 2003

Atty. Dkt.: 1201-97  
Date: December 3, 2003

Sir:

Attached for filing is the patent application of:

Inventor: BICHON et al

Entitled: GAS OR AIR FILLED POLYMERIC MICROBALLOONS USABLE AS SUSPENSIONS IN LIQUID CARRIERS FOR ULTRASONIC ECHOGRAPHY

and including attachments as noted below:

Newly executed Declaration,  Copy of Declaration from prior application,  Abstract

26 pages of specification and claims (including 31 numbered claims), and  
0 sheets of accompanying drawing/s.

Priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based on the following foreign applications:

Application Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed
EP 90810367.4	EP	18 05 1990

, respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application..

Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached.

Certified copy(ies) filed on May 3, 1991 in prior appln. no. 08/910,152 filed August 13, 1997

This application claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. , filed , the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

This application is a  continuation/ division/ continuation-in-part of Application No. 09/706,778, filed November 7, 2000, abandoned, which in turn is a division of Serial No. 08/910,152 filed August 13, 1997, now U.S. 6,200,548, which is a division of Serial No. 08/288,550 filed August 10, 1994, now U.S. 5,711,933, which is a division of Serial No. 08/033,435 filed March 18, 1993, abandoned, which is a division of Serial No. 07/695,343 filed May 3, 1991, abandoned, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

Petition filed in prior application to extend its life to insure co-pendency.

The prior application is assigned to Bracco International B.V., Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

It is hereby requested that the Examiner consider the art cited in the parent application by applicant and/or the Examiner for the reasons stated therein. A listing of that art is attached.

Applicant claims "small entity" status.  "Small entity" statement attached.

Please enter the attached and/or below preliminary amendment prior to calculation of filing fee:

Also attached:  Information Disclosure Statement;  Non-Publication Request;  Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission;  Statement deleting Inventor(s) named in prior application;  Other:

**FILING FEE IS BASED ON CLAIMS AS FILED LESS ANY HEREWITH CANCELED**

Basic Filing Fee	\$	770.00
Total effective claims 50 - 20 (at least 20) = 30 x \$ 18.00	\$	540.00
Independent claims 5 - 3 (at least 3) = 2 x \$ 86.00	\$	172.00
If any proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$290.00 (ignore improper)	\$	280.00
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ 1762.00
If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract		-\$( 0.00)
Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00)		\$ 1762.00
	<b>SECOND SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ 1762.00
		\$ 0.00
	<b>TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED</b>	\$ 1,762.00

Any future submission requiring an extension of time is hereby stated to include a petition for such time extension.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Correspondence Address:

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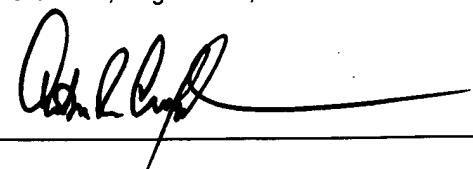
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By Atty: Arthur R. Crawford, Reg. No. 25,327

Signature: 

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